



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOVERNOR MARKS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MURDER VICTIMS
For First Time, Day of Remembrance Also Observed By Congress

PHOENIX – Governor Janet Napolitano has proclaimed tomorrow, Tuesday, September 25, a Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims – a day which will also, for the first time, be marked by Congress at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

“For every person who is murdered, there are an untold number of family members, friends and co-workers who are left behind, picking up the pieces after a loved one was taken from them,” the Governor said. “It’s very important that the community show that we support these survivors, and that their loved ones will not be forgotten.”

The Day of Remembrance ceremony in Washington, D.C. will be led in part by Dan Levey, who is the Governor’s policy adviser on victims’ rights as well as the president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, which is co-hosting the event. More than 25 family members of murder victims from the Valley of the Sun chapter of Parents of Murdered Children are traveling to Washington, D.C. for tomorrow’s event.

Governor Napolitano last year sent a letter to the nation’s 49 other governors urging them to support a Congressional resolution recognizing the Day of Remembrance. September 25 had been observed as a Day of Remembrance at the State Capitol for several previous years. “We’ve marked this Day of Remembrance in Arizona for several years, and I’m very glad that now it has moved to a truly national scale,” Governor Napolitano said.

Governor Napolitano believes that the public must not only show victims compassion, but also provide substantive assistance in the realm of victims’ rights. Her actions include:

- Becoming the first governor in the nation to name a governor’s adviser on victims’ rights.
- Proposing and signing legislation that protects victims of domestic abuse and stalking from having to list their personal addresses on public Web sites.
- Proposing and signing legislation to ensure free copies of police reports to victims of serious crimes.

The Governor’s proclamation is attached.

For more information about the Office of the Governor, please visit www.azgovernor.gov.